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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
| 10/598,294 | 08/23/2006 | Kwang Soo Kim | 2017-107 | 2452 |
| 52706 | 7590 | 11/18/2009 | EXAMINER | |
| IPLA P.A. 3580 WILSHIRE BLVD. 17TH FLOOR LOS ANGELES, CA 90010 | | | THANH, QUANG D | |
| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER | | 3771 | |
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| 11/18/2009 | PAPER | | | |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

| | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
| | 10/598,294 | KIM, KWANG SOO |
| | Examiner Quang D. Thanh | Art Unit 3771 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 23 August 2006 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)

Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)

Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: ____

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Specification

2. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

3. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because "said one surface" has been used. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Drawings

4. Figure 1 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

5. Claim 3 is objected to because of the following informalities: “the first finger-pressure into engagement” should be replaced with -- the first finger- pressure rod into engagement --. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

6. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

7. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

8. Re claim 1, the limitation “the rotation axle is rotatably inserted into the end portion of the first finger-pressure rod, so that the rotational force of the driving unit is prevented from being transmitted to the first finger-pressure rod” is unclear as to what structural element would prevent the rotational force of the driving unit from being transmitted to the first finger-pressure rod.

9. Re claim 2, there is no support in the specification for "a detection unit mounted on the mounting plate, for generating a signal when the first finger-pressure rod rotates at more than a preset angle in the second direction"

10. Re claim 5, there is no support in the specification for "an opening detection unit mounted on the mounting plate, for generating, when the second finger-pressure rod rotates at more than a preset angle in the first direction"

11. Re claim 6, there is no support in the specification for "a switch electrically connected to the controller, wherein in case a user turns on the switch, the controller controls the driving unit to rotate the second finger-pressure rod in the first direction"

12. The rest of the claims are also rejected because they depend from a rejected claim.

13. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

14. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The limitation "the motor" lacks antecedent basis.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

15. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

16. Claim 1, as best understood, is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kuznets et al. (US 6251089). Kuznets discloses an apparatus (fig. 9a) for performing a finger-pressure treatment on a body part, the apparatus comprising: a first finger-pressure rod 170 (fig. 6a) to be in contact with one surface of the body part; a second finger-pressure rod 170 (fig. 6a) for applying press on an opposite surface of the body part substantially opposite to said one surface; a driving unit ("motor", col. 10, lines 29-30) for generating a rotational force; a rotation axle 154 (fig. 6a) connected to an end portion of the second finger-pressure rod (fig. 6a) for transmitting the rotational force of the driving unit to the second finger-pressure rod; an elastic member 179 (fig. 6a) which is connected to an end portion of the first finger-pressure rod and applies an elastic force to the first finger-pressure rod in such manner that the first finger-pressure rod is rotated in a first direction opposite to a second direction in which the press of the second finger-pressure rod applied on the body part (fig. 6a); and a mounting plate 168 (fig. 6a) on which the rotation axle is rotatably mounted and the elastic member is mounted, wherein the rotation axle is rotatably inserted into the end portion of the first finger-pressure rod (fig. 6a).

Conclusion

17. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Dudley discloses a finger massager. Meish discloses a temple massager.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quang D. Thanh whose telephone number is (571) 272-4982. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Justine Yu can be reached on (571) 272-4835. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Quang D. Thanh/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3771